

INSIGNIA

The First Set of New Royal Air Force Unit Badges Approved by the King

HIS MAJESTY THE KING has signified his approval of the first set of new badges for Royal Air Force units. "To foster *esprit de corps*," these badges (drawings of the first set of which are reproduced on this page) have been authorised by the Air Council for display on the units' aircraft and other equipment.

The original design bearing the approval of the King will in each case be sent to the squadron concerned for retention after formal registration at the College of Arms.

A standard frame for the badges has been approved, consisting of a circle of R.A.F. blue inscribed with the title of the unit, edged and surrounded by a wreath of laurel in gold and ensigned with the Imperial Crown. Beneath the circle is a scroll for the motto of the unit.

Distinctions

In the case of operational units the badge will be used, without squadron numbers, on a background of special shape which will indicate the principal operational function of the unit. For fighter squadrons the approved shape is a spear-head; for bombers, torpedo-bombers, and bomber transport units a bomb; and for general reconnaissance, army co-operation, and flying-boat squadrons a six-pointed star. Two of the units, No. 4 (A.C.) Squadron and No. 604 (County of Middlesex) (Fighter) Squadron, whose badges have received approval, took part in the R.A.F. Display at Hendon last Saturday.

The Chester Herald has been appointed Inspector of Royal Air Force Badges, and he will ensure that badges designed in collaboration with the units are in general accordance with the principles of heraldry. In this connection the heraldic description of each of the badges on this page makes rather fascinating reading.

No. 2 (A.C.): Three concentric circles over all a Wake Knot. No. 15 (Bomber): A Hind's Head affrontee erased at the neck between Wings elevated and conjoined in base. No. 22 (Bomber): On a torteau, a Maltese Cross throughout, over all a "π" fimbriated. No. 201 (Flying Boat): A Seagull, wings elevated and addorsed. No. 207 (Bomber): A winged Lion statant. No. 604 (County of Middlesex) (Fighter): A Seax. No. 33 (Bomber): A Stag's head affrontee, couped at the neck. No. 18 (Bomber): A Pegasus rampant. No. 4 (Army Co-operation): A sun in splendour divided per bend by a flash of lightning.



No. 2 (Army Co-operation) Squadron



No. 4 (Army Co-operation) Squadron



No. 15 (Bomber) Squadron



No. 18 (Bomber) Squadron



No. 22 (Torpedo Bomber) Squadron



No. 33 (Bomber) Squadron



No. 201 (Flying Boat) Squadron



No. 207 (Bomber) Squadron



No. 604 (County of Middlesex) (Fighter) Squadron